Surfing the Silver Tsunami: Mentoring the Next Generation

#AMPO2017

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The Broward MPO is located in sunny Southeast Florida
The Silver Tsunami is coming…

• How can we **actively** engage the next generation?

• How can we **expose** students to the world of transportation planning?

• How can we **interest** students in thinking about long term planning and safety?
Motivating Factors for Outreach

- Strengthening our connections with the community
- Implementing our Board’s vision for the agency
- Strengthening our relationships with our partnering agencies
- Helping make education curriculum more career-focused
Career Days: Elementary Schools Students

• **Focus:** expose students to Transportation Planning field

• We’re starting to receive requests from schools rather than seek out the schools
Walk to School Day: Elementary School Students

- **Focus:** Promote Pedestrian Safety
- **Annual Event**
- **Paired our Board Members with MPO Staff members for the various events all over the county.**

#BCPSWalk2School
TRAC & RIDES Training: Middle & High School Teachers

• **Focus:** Provide teachers with hands-on resources for students in engineering related classes
• MPO budgets to buy one hands on module for teachers who attend the training.
• Worked with Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) staff at Broward Schools

#TRACandRIDES
Construction Career Days: High School Students

• **Focus:** Expose students to Transportation Planning field

• Annual Event

• Work with local DOT district

• Collect teacher information to send them scholarship & grant information
Claim Your Future Showcase: High School Students

• **Focus:** equipping our students for the workforce

• Work with Broward Career, Technical, Adult, Community Education (CTACE) Department and local business interest alliance group.

• Provided:
  • Interviewing advice
  • Gave out sample resumes and CVs
  • Shared non-verbal communication tips
Think Like A Planner: High School Students

- This event provides each student with the opportunity to shadow transportation professionals and conduct their own short group presentations before elected officials.

#ThinkLikeAPlanner
The hook for schools

• Group work
• Presentation skills
• Project centered around **Safety and Mobility**
• Collaterals to send home with students
• Critical Thinking
  • Discussion on Problem Solving, etc.

#ThinkLikeAPlanner
Major Keys to Work With the Schools in Your Area

Do you have:

• School Board Members?
• Local Schools with Career Development Department?
• Local Schools with Magnet Schools/ Science Technology Engineering and Math Departments?
Involve your Elected Officials

• Board Members
• Industry Professionals
• Partnering agencies
• Technical staff
• Consultants
Fruits of Our Labor

- People start coming to you
  - Career day requests
  - Claim your future showcase
  - School board presentations
  - Advisory board meetings
  - Science days
- They provide us with opportunities and we reciprocate.
Contact Us

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